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## **Garfield County Mitigation Plan**

**To:** Jill Hunsaker Ryan, MPH, Executive Director, CDPHE  
Mara Brosy-Wiwchar, Chief of Staff, CDPHE  
Michelle Child, County Variance Manager

**From:** Yvonne Long, Director of Garfield County Public Health  
**Re:** Garfield County COVID-19 Mitigation Plan  
**Date:** July 20, 2020

### **Variance & Mitigation Framework**

The thresholds currently indicated in our most recent variance approval are as follows:

- Number of hospitalizations
- New cases doubling over a 5-day reporting period
- Increase at outpatient clinics (based on our trend data)
- Increasing trend of percent of tests positives over 15 days

### **Community Goals**

We must work collectively to help slow the spread of COVID-19 in our communities. Garfield County is working and will continue to work with our partners to:

1. Take actions that can help decrease case incidence rates to below 100 cases per 100,000 population within the next 2-4 weeks (Garfield County is currently at 114 cases/100,000 population)
2. Implement actions now that support longer-term goals including maintaining our current economy, keeping the workforce employed, and opening schools

### **Mitigation Actions**

1. Increase capacity for education and enforcement, for businesses and our Hispanic/Latinx communities
2. Broaden our marketing outreach campaign and communication strategy
3. Increase outreach to sectors where our case data indicates challenges
4. Increase testing capacity and ensure results within 48 hours. The state lab is currently 5-7 days out from notification of results

5. Provide specific guidance for people with symptoms awaiting results
6. Continue regional coordination and collaboration
7. Work with CDPHE on testing, vision, strategy, communication, and support to hospitals and providers

## **Disease Trends**

Disease trends for Garfield County are summarized on a GCPH maintained web page:

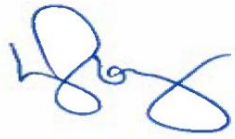
- [COVID Dashboard](#)
- The County is experiencing a steady increase in our Hispanic/Latinx population related to workplace, or workplace adjacent exposures. Individuals most affected have worked in service-oriented jobs such as construction, painting, property management, and housekeeping
- There is evidence of community-spread in Garfield County
- From June 1 to present, 26% of cases are in the 20 to 29-year-old age demographic
- Young working adults, ages 20 to 39, have accounted for 46% of cases in the same time period

## **Mitigation Steps and Timeline**

- Garfield County Public Health (GCPH) is in the process of hiring additional contact tracers and is utilizing overflow tracers through the CDPHE to ensure timely follow-up of all identified cases
- Regional collaboration between Garfield, Eagle and Pitkin Counties around communication and marketing outreach, disease containment and testing strategies is ongoing
- GCPH is developing a 'promotores' program that places community health workers from a targeted population, in this case Hispanic/Latinex population, to deliver preventive health information
- The "Mask Up, Do More" campaign is a county-wide partnership with municipalities, businesses and area chambers of commerce, to educate residents and tourists about preventive measures that will decrease case numbers
- [Community marketing campaign](#)
- [Business safety marketing materials](#)

This is a draft of the Garfield County mitigation plan. Additional details and timeline information will follow by the end of the week of July 20.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Yvonne Long', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Yvonne Long  
Director, Garfield County Public Health